

# Regular Meeting Minutes PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Wednesday, February 1, 2006 Mountain View Park and Community Center 8625 E. Mountain View, Scottsdale, AZ 85258 5:00 P.M.

Present: Chairperson Donn Loper, Commissioners John Faramelli, Robert Frost, Ron King and Ronald Petersen.

Absent: Commissioners Dean Cerimeli and Shelley Anderson.

Staff present: Leslie Clark, Erin McKallor-Quill, Ryan Stee, Rose Williams, Bill Murphy, and Judy Weiss

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Loper called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

#### MOMENT OF SILENCE

Chairperson Loper asked everyone to observe a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Regular Meeting of January 18. Chairperson Loper asked a parliamentary procedure question whether to approve the work-study session and the commission meeting minutes separately. Ms. Weiss said separately. Commissioner Frost moved to approve the work-study minutes. Commissioner Petersen seconded. Passed unanimously. Commissioner Frost moved to approve the commission minutes. Commissioner King seconded. Passed unanimously.

## CITY PARKS AND GROUNDS URBAN FORESTRY UPDATE

William Murphy, Parks and Grounds Management Director, provided an update on urban forestry programs, which included Tree City USA information, GIS Mapping Techniques and Training Programs for the Parks and Grounds Management Division.

Commissioner Faramelli said it's a fabulous program and asked if there is a tree-planting program for Hillside areas. Mr. Murphy said this is outside the work area of the Parks and Grounds management Division right now. We are currently doing right of way, parks and capital projects.

Commissioner Faramelli asked if there was a plant community within each character area, which plants do well in which areas and if we have a plan for the planting process. Mr. Murphy explained the process.

Commissioner King noted that trees are very special to the community, and that Parks is doing a great job.

Chairperson Loper inquired if training for employees was included in the \$410,000 mentioned in the presentation. Mr. Murphy said it includes just the care and purchasing of the trees.

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Chairperson Loper asked in reference to the newer developments up north, whether we ask the developers to salvage the trees uprooted during construction. Mr. Murphy replied yes, and these will be placed back into the landscape.

Commissioner Faramelli asked if developers have a salvaging program. Mr. Murphy said the developers come to the city and ask if we want to take the trees. And we can take them or not, as we need them. Commissioner Faramelli asked if the city pays for them. Mr. Murphy replied no.

### CITY TREE MEMORIAL PROGRAM

Rose Williams, Parks and Grounds Management Manager, presented a brief overview of the City's Memorial Tree Program. She presented a brochure, which is a proposed program for citizens, giving guidelines for purchase of a memorial tree.

Commissioner King asked how many requests are received in a year. Ms. Williams replied about 10-15. Commissioner King suggested that we also put the species of tree on the certificate.

Commissioner Faramelli asked if \$250 is the total cost. Ms. Williams said we took the average of the tree, cost of one and one-half hours of work by a Maintenance Worker I and a Maintenance Worker II, and the administrative fee. That does cover the cost of the tree and after that, we take care of the maintenance.

Commissioner Frost moved to approve the Memorial Program with the suggested change (typographical error in brochure). Commissioner Faramelli seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

#### PARKS AND RECREATION DONATION PROGRAM

Leslie Clark, Parks and Recreation Manager, presented a brief overview of the Parks and Recreation Donation Program. Ms. Clark outlined the other opportunities available for citizens in addition to the memorial trees.

Commissioner Frost asked Mr. Murphy concerning the remodel at stadium: did we salvage the home plates? Mr. Murphy replied yes, we did; all home plates were salvaged. Ms. Weiss said the original project had aluminum name plates that were in the concrete promenade and they didn't work well, so we put them on the wall.

Commissioner Faramelli asked if this is all cost recovery. Ms. Clark said yes, and if we can make a small amount of income to a project that is helpful. Commissioner Faramelli asked if we would do tiles again. Ms. Clark said we have not explored that at this time.

Chairperson Loper asked if any more pools are slated to be built which could use tiles. Ms. Weiss said not at this time. At McDowell Mountain Ranch, the tiles will be placed in a pool area not used for competition. This program has raised some funds to go back into that project

Chairperson Loper said it would be good to get this program under one roof. He asked if we planned to put a link on the website. Ms. Clark replied yes, and that the other memorial options might meet citizen's needs better than a tree. Chairperson Loper asked if citizens will be directed to a person on the website. Ms. Clark said it's not on the website yet, but there will be a contact person listed, or an email.

# DIRECTOR'S REPORT OF CURRENT EVENTS (A.R.S. § 38-431.02(K)

Judy Weiss, Parks and Recreation Director, and William Murphy, Parks and Grounds Management Director, updated the Commission on the status of events and activities of the Parks and Recreation, and Parks and Grounds Management Divisions.

During the presentation given by Ms. Weiss, commissioners had questions.

Ms. Weiss mentioned the new U.S. Open blue tennis courts and that we will be using as we redo our courts in the future. Chairperson Loper asked if we would be reconstructing existing courts. Ms. Weiss said that this

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construction is at Cholla Park, and that all future courts would be constructed in the blue. Chairperson Loper asked about the courts at Scottsdale Ranch Park. Ms. Weiss said those are not under construction yet.

Ms. Weiss mentioned Bill's crews have done a lot of work on the new baseball field at Eldorado Park. The Coronado High School baseball team will use the Eldorado fields while their school is under construction. As part of the city's cooperation with the school district, the Parks and Grounds Division has converted the softball field by installing an infield, and irrigation system. The school teams will be playing on the north field, and practicing on the south field. They will also be using Indian School Park for their tennis teams.

Commissioner King asked if there is any interest in baseball leagues. Ms. Weiss replied that there may be some interest, but we don't have the facilities.

Commissioner Faramelli asked about the master plan process at Mescal Park and about the approval process, and if the Council decision comes back through the commission. Ms. Weiss replied no. The commission approved the master plan to add lights and then it went to the Planning Commission.

Chairperson Loper asked about the specifics of changes to parks, and whether that would that come from the Design Review Board. Ms. Weiss said that comes from the Planning Commission, which has set stipulations including landscape stipulations, in consultation with the neighbors. Chairperson Loper asked how the recommendations by the Design Review Board would be implemented. Ms. Weiss said they would be implemented by the City Council. Chairperson Loper asked who makes the decision on what trees go where. Ms. Weiss said Mr. Murphy.

Commissioner Faramelli asked how the Council works on design elements. Ms. Weiss replied parks commission, planning commission, and City Council. Commissioner Faramelli said we'd like to see the final program. If there are significant changes it should come back to the parks commission. Ms. Weiss said all the Council is considering is the lighting. If they do decide, then there is potential for landscape planning in consultation with the neighbors.

Chairperson Loper asked if the City Council makes a recommendation on the time for the lights to be on. Ms. Weiss said they don't get down to that detail. Chairperson Loper asked if the lights go out at 10. Ms. Weiss said at this park it might be 9 pm. Chairperson Loper asked if the process, when we consult with neighbors, would be the same as before. Ms. Weiss replied yes.

Ms. Weiss informed commissioners that on February 15th at Via Linda Senior Center there will be a joint meeting with the Preservation Commission. Chairperson Loper requested that if there is an action item that they have it before the meeting. Ms. Weiss said the Preservation Commission follows the same process as the Parks and Recreation Commission, and members should get the agenda and any information before the meeting.

Ms. Weiss reminded commissioners of the March 15<sup>th</sup> tour of the city park facilities. The tour will be during the day, starting in the morning. Commissioner Frost asked what time we would begin. Ms. Weiss said at 8 or 8:30 am. She asked commissioners to RSVP for the tour.

Commissioner Frost had questions on some of the statistics in the written material. Ms. Weiss said that there was a typo on one of the graphs.

Ms. Weiss reminded commissioners of the Family 50's Valentine event and that we will send out reminders.

During the presentation given by Mr. Murphy, commissioners had questions.

Commissioner Frost said Bashas employees volunteer twice a year. Do we have any recognition for them? Mr. Murphy said we don't have a program at this time, but that we might be able to do something in the future. Ms. Weiss said we do have volunteer recognition for larger volunteer programs on an annual basis.

Commissioner Frost suggested going to one of their staff meetings and give them recognition at their location. Ms. Weiss said there is someone assigned to enhance our volunteer programs.

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Chairperson Loper said Mr. Ira Rubins was recognized in the Parks & Recreation Magazine. What role does he play? Ms. Weiss replied he is the Executive Director of the statewide parks and recreation professional organization. All of the state organizations are affiliates with the national organization.

## OPEN CALL TO THE PUBLIC (A.R.S. § 38-431.02)

Chairperson Loper called for any items from the floor or the Commission. There were none

# <u>ADJOURNMENT</u>

Commissioner Faramelli moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner King seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

With no further business to be brought before the Commission, Chairperson Loper adjourned the meeting at 6:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Bates, Recording Secretary.

Meets established criteria.

Judy Weiss

Judy Weiss, Director Parks and Recreation

William B. Murphy, Director Parks and Grounds Management

William B. Murphy